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# FOREIGN DEPARTMENT

IN CHARGE OF  
**LAVINIA L. DOCK**



## THE SCHOOL FOR NURSES OF THE MAISON DE SANTE PROTESTANTE, BORDEAUX

WE are indebted to Dr. Anna Hamilton, of France, for an account of the School of Nursing in connection with the "Maison de Santé" in Bordeaux, over which she has supervision. Dr. Hamilton is becoming well known to English and American nurses through her interest in nursing work and her writings on the subject, her report to the International Council of Nurses having appeared in the November number of *THE AMERICAN JOURNAL OF NURSING*. This school in Bordeaux was mentioned in that report as being the only one conducted on lines similar to ours, and in the pamphlet just sent to us we read that the practical teaching and the daily routine are modelled upon the training-school system as we know it here and in other countries.

The school takes two classes of pupils,—internes, who enter for a two-years' course, and externes, who take a "first aid" course in the dispensary or out-patient department.

The two-year pupils must present qualifications such as our schools require, and are provided with board, lodging, and laundry. Their hours of work and off-duty time are patterned after the English hospitals (about twelve-hours' duty daily), and they wear a uniform which does not seem to include a cap. The "Maison de Santé" has sixty-eight beds for patients, with a general service. The theoretical teaching covers eight hours in the month during the first year and twelve a month during the second year, and consists of lectures from the physicians, with additional classes given by the directress of nurses. Four examinations are held in a year.

The first-year lectures treat of anatomy and physiology, hygiene, minor surgery, and medicines, while the second year takes up the study of diseases and the care of children.

The pupils pay for their instruction, but eight scholarships are provided for desirable applicants of insufficient means.

We congratulate Dr. Hamilton on her undertaking, and wish her much success. It is hard for us to realize what up-hill work hers is, France being far behind in nursing as we know it.

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### THE DUBLIN NURSES' CLUB

THE first annual meeting of the Nurses' Club was held on Wednesday evening, November 13, at half-past seven.

The president, Miss Huxley, gave a very gratifying account of the progress of the club.

During the year about four thousand visits were paid by the members, who number over five hundred, and they introduced more than three hundred visitors.



CHANGING THE BED, SCHOOL FOR NURSES, BORDEAUX



THE GARDEN OF THE SCHOOL FOR NURSES, BORDEAUX

The financial statement submitted was satisfactory, the accounts closing with a good balance, showing the appreciation with which this new movement has been received by the nurses.

Miss MacDonnell was elected vice-president for the ensuing year, and in order to develop the work and deepen the interest of the members three sub-committees were formed to arrange for lectures, provide a library, and organize social evenings. The dates of various lectures were announced, and the members expressed themselves as being deeply grateful to the medical profession for their kind help in giving them.

We heartily congratulate the nurses on having succeeded in organizing such an important movement, and wish them every success.

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November 25, 1901.

DEAR MADAM: Our committee met on Friday last to welcome home our delegates, Miss Wood and Miss Hughes, and to receive their reports.

I am desired by the committee to write to you and ask you to convey to the Organizing Committee of the International Congress of Nurses our appreciation of the generous hospitality shown to our delegates. The cordiality of their reception and the kind thought taken in every detail for their comfort has much impressed the representatives of the various societies which united to send out Miss Wood and Miss Hughes, and we thank you heartily.

We hope to have several meetings to hear our delegates' experiences and are sure we shall learn much from them.

It is a satisfaction to know that though details of management must differ in different countries, our aims for the consolidation and wider development of the nursing profession are in principle the same.

The enthusiasm inseparable from a younger organization is most encouraging to us, who have battled for so long under our revered chief, Miss Nightingale, for a high standard of nursing, both ethical and technical. We rejoice to find that our experiences, even our mistakes, are proving helpful to those newer countries whose friendly professional relations with us we value so greatly.

Believe me to remain, dear madam,

Yours faithfully,

ROSALIND PAGET,

Honorary Secretary pro tem. Sectional Committee (Nursing).

*To Miss Dock.*

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[The following extract from a letter written by a nurse in Manila is of special interest.—ED.]

"I have completed two years and two months in the Philippine Islands, and it does not seem like one year.

"I should like to have been with you at Buffalo this September. No doubt the meeting was very interesting. But the Exposition has its sad memory, the assassination of our beloved President McKinley. The news shocked us very much. The funeral services in Manila were grand. September 19, in the morning, music, addresses, and sermons were delivered in the Marble Room of the 'Ayuntamiento,' or executive building, and at noon military ceremonies were held on the Lunetta.

"That was a grand sight. The Lunetta is bounded on one side by the Manila Bay, and the 'White Squadron' was lined up, facing it. All during the

ceremony salutes were fired. An immense throng of people were gathered, representatives of all nations, and the Filipinos came in from all the provinces. All Americans and American sympathizers are wearing mourning for thirty days, and all flags are at half-mast.

"In connection with the military services solemn prayers were offered by the Archbishop in the Catholic Cathedral (Spanish). The services were very impressive and the music grand, rendered by a Filipino orchestra and boy choir."

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#### OUR DELEGATES ARE ENTERTAINED

THE Society of American Women in London invited the English delegates to the International Congress of Nurses to a reception on November 29, where addresses were followed by a social gathering. Tickets were sent to a proportionate number of members of the various societies represented by our delegates.

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#### REGISTRATION IN NEW ZEALAND

NEW ZEALAND has passed a very comprehensive bill giving legal status to the nursing profession. As soon as our space permits we hope to give the main feature of this important legislation in detail.

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#### ITEMS

WE have received the *St. John's House News*, another nursing publication similar to the *St. Bartholomew's League News* and our alumnae journals. We welcome it as another sign that the members of our sisterhood are learning self-expression, and are feeling the need of being in relation with one another.

The keynote is struck by the editorial in the words, "We are not solitary units in the world, but parts of a great whole." The *News* gives an account of the organization of the League of St. John's House, the constitution, addresses made, and contains interesting letters from absent members, items of personal interest, and lists of members.

FORTY English nurses have left England to work in the "concentration" camps of South Africa. A committee of women having been deputed by the Secretary of State to report upon the condition of these camps, it is supposed that the need for nurses has been impressed upon the authorities by these women. We rejoice in every such extension of the functions of women as citizens and public workers. Every such instance reiterates the proof that their influence is always for civilization and humanitarianism. No doubt the nurses will do fine work, but they must certainly be saddened in the doing of it, as we all so often are, by realizing that the misery we see is largely avoidable and unnecessary.

